

CONNAH'S QUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1942.

Connah's Quay,
Flints.,
October, 1943.

W.N.P. Williams,
Medical Officer of Health.



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CONNAH'S QUAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
Connah's Quay Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

My Report of the health of the District for 1942 is drawn up in the manner suggested in Circular 1961 (Wales) issued by the Ministry of Health. Except for any alterations, improvements, or developments, the Report is similar to that of last year.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

<u>Area:</u>	4,214 acres.
<u>Population:</u>	-
<u>Rateable Value:</u>	£ 39,523. Sum represented by 1d rate £153.6193
<u>Number of Inhabited Houses:</u>	-
<u>Number of Families:</u>	-

Social Conditions.

The Urban District of Connah's Quay is on the West bank of the River Dee, and towards the East of the County of Flint. Climatic conditions are reasonably good through out the year, and usually mild in character during all seasons, particularly in winter months, making the district a healthy one to live in.

Unemployment in the area is at a minimum, and the definitely increased prosperity of the workers is reflected in the relatively increased happiness and appearance of the children.

Occupational diseases and associate troubles are at minimum in the area.

The Accident Incidence appears to keep at much the same level each year. Road accidents (motor and other vehicles) were not numerous, but actual numbers of these are not available.

Vital Statistics

<u>Births.</u>		M.	F.	Total.
Live Births	- Total	57	65	122
	Legitimate	55	62	117
	Illegitimate	2	3	5
Still Births	- Total	1	2	3
	Legitimate	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	0	0	0

<u>Deaths.</u>	M.	F.	Total.
No. of Deaths from all causes	29	27	56
Death from Puerperal Causes:			
No. 29 Sepsis.	1		
No. 30 other			
puerperal causes.			Nil
Maternal death rate per 1,000 total births.		82	
	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths of infants under 1 year.	2	4	6
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births.			49.2
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births.			51.3
Illegitimate per 1,000 illegitimate live births.			Nil
	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	4	4	8
" Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
" Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	1	1

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment upon; nor any specially noteworthy cause of sickness, invalidity, or any other feature prejudicial to the health of the neighbourhood.

<u>Table of Causes of Deaths.</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Influenza	-	1	1
Tuberculosis of Resp.Sys.	1	2	3
Cancer	4	4	8
Appendicitis	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Heart Disease	8	1	9
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	2	4
Violence	2	1	3
Other defined diseases	5	7	12
Premature Birth	-	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	-	-	-
Other digestive diseases	-	-	-
Congenital Malforms (Infants)	2	1	3
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach	-	-	-
Nephritis	1	2	3
	29	27	56

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. Medical : W. Neville P. Williams, L. R. C. S., L. R. C. P. (Edin),
L. R. F. P. S. (Glas), Medical Officer of Health.
(Part-time)

Other : Henry Jones, M. R. San. I., M. S. I. A., M. Inst. M. &
Cy. E. Sanitary Inspector, etc. (full-time)
Appointed 1. 8. 34.

2. Laboratory Facilities : Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service,
Castle Bank, Conway.

- (a) Ambulance Facilities: Deeside and District Voluntary Ambulance Association.
- (b) Nursing in the home: No change.
- (c) Treatment Centres and Clinics: No change.
- (d) Hospitals - Public and voluntary: No change.

SECTION C.

3.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water.

The Council's works comprise a gathering ground, chemical house and tanks for coagulation and sedimentation. unfiltered water storage reservoirs, crude water pump, two automatic vertical pressure filters, an electrically driven air blower, automatic base exchange softener, sterilization plant, a treated water reservoir and a booster plant. A secondary supply is obtained from another authority.

Analysis of water during the year gave the following results, samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination;

Bacteriological Examination Reports:-

Sample taken 16/2/42	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 21/4/42	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 16/6/42	Remarks - Not quite up to standard for chlorinated water.
Sample taken 12/8/42	Remarks - Satisfactory (Birkenhead supply)
Sample taken 12/8/42	Remarks - Satisfactory.
Sample taken 3/12/42	Remarks - Not quite up to standard for treated water.
Sample taken 3/12/42	Remarks - Ministry of Health Classification: Class 1. (Birkenhead supply).
Sample taken 17/12/42	Remarks - Ministry of Health Classification: Class 1. Very satisfactory.
Sample taken 17/12/42	Remarks - Ministry of Health Classification: Class 1. Very satisfactory.

Chemical Examination Reports:-

Sample taken 16/2/42. Remarks - Clear, pale yellow colour, odourless, pH 7.5, total hardness 7.2 part per 100,000, free chlorine .04 part per million, temporary hardness 4.6 part per 100,000, permanent hardness 2.6 parts per 100,000, acidity (CO₂) 100 ml. = 1.15 ml. .02N soda = .39 mgm. CO₂ per 100 ml. Alkalinity (Bicarbonate) 100 ml. 21.7 ml. .02N acid = 26.5 mgm per 100 ml (as HCO₃).

Sample taken 21/4/42 Remarks - Clear, colourless, odourless, pH 7.5, total solids 43.6 parts per 100,000, total hardness 8.0 parts per 100,000, permanent hardness 3.75 parts per 100,000, temporary hardness 4.25 parts per 100,000, Alkalinity (Bicarbonate) 31.1 parts per 100,000 (as HCO₃), Acidity (CO₂) .77 parts per 100,000.

Sample taken 6/7/42 Remarks - Clear, colourless, odourless, pH 7.5, total solids 43.4 part per 100,000, total hardness 12.65 part per 100,000, permanent hardness 4.0 parts per 100,000, temporary hardness 8.65 parts per 100,000, Alkalinity 30.99 parts per 100,000 (as HCO₃) Acidity (CO₂) 0.53 parts per 100,000 (as CO₂).

Sample taken 13/8/42. Remarks - Clear, colourless, odourless, pH 7.5, total solids 34.4 parts per 100,000, total hardness 9.9 parts per 100,000, permanent hardness 7.4 parts per 100,000, Alkalinity 24.8 part per 100,000 (as HCO₃), Acidity .44 part per 100,000 (as CO₂), Free chlorine Nil.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

Little trouble has been experienced with the drainage. There has been the usual stoppages due to misuse, but they were generally cleared the same day. Where necessary the owners were called upon to do repairs or improvements.

There were no cases of flooding after heavy rains.

2a. Rivers and Streams

No change.

3. Closet Accommodation

No change.

(2) Public Cleansing

The difficulty of obtaining extra labour increased, but no complaints were received during the year.

The Refuse collection and disposal system worked satisfactorily and without complaints.

No new streets were added during the year.

(3) Sanitary Inspection of the Area

There was again little to note of an unsatisfactory nature on the sanitary conditions in the area. There are no outstanding complaints.

(4) Shops and Offices

Shops are inspected as occasion demands. No action has been necessary during the year under the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and their sanitary conveniences, but in one case dirty sheds were taken down and the premises cleaned out.

(5) Camping Sites

There are no camping sites in the Area but one licence was issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

(6) Smoke Abatement

No action has been taken under the Act.

(7) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths (or Pools) in the area. Open-air bathing takes place in the River during the warm periods. Beach guards are appointed for the season, but as the water is definitely unsatisfactory for bathing in, and the River bed dangerous, it would be decidedly better if the practice were discouraged. Alternatively, the provision of Swimming Baths has much to recommend itself.

(8) Eradication of Bed Bugs

(a) No. of houses (Council) found infested.	1
No. of houses (Council) disinfected.	1

(b) No. of houses (Others) found infested.	2
(c) No. of houses (Others) disinfected.	2

(The premises were sprayed with Cromessol Co., Ltd., Solution B with satisfactory results.)

(9) Schools

The schools were inspected and found to be in good condition, the sanitary conditions being satisfactory.

There was no occasion during the year when any infection was sufficiently severe to warrant closing of any schools in the Area.

SECTION D.

Housing.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

- | | | |
|---------|---|-----|
| (1) (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts. | 12 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose: | 24 |
| (2) (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recored under the Consolidated Regulations, 1925 - 1932: | Nil |
| (b) | Number of inspection made for the purpose: | Nil |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation: | Nil |
| (4) | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under (3) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation: | 12 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal notice by the Local Authority of their Officers: | Minor repairs only | 12 |
|--|--------------------|----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (a) | <u>Proceedings under Sect. 9, 10, and 16 of Housing Act, 1936.</u> | |
| (1) | No. of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: | Nil |
| (2) | No. of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices: | Nil |
| | (a) By owners: | Nil |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default: | Nil |
| (b) | <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u> | |
| (1) | No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied: | Nil |
| (2) | No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: | Nil |
| | (a) By owners: | Nil |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default: | Nil |
| (c) | <u>Proceedings under Sects. 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936.</u> | |
| (1) | No. of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made: | Nil |
| (2) | No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders: | Nil |
| (d) | <u>Proceedings under Sect. 12 of Housing Act 1936.</u> | |
| (1) | No. of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made: | Nil |
| (2) | No. of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | Nil |

4. Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| (a) | 1. No. of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of year | |
| | 2. No. of families dwelling therein: | No |
| | 3. No. of persons dwelling therein: | inspections |
| (b) | No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year: | made for overcrowding |
| (c) | 1. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. | |
| | 2. No. of persons concerned in such cases: | |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding: | |
| (e) | Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding: | |

Housing Conditions, as you are aware, are more or less in a state of total inactivity. Houses are as usual regularly inspected, and complaints from householders investigated and remedied. Informal notices are usually sufficient to the complaints of the request to any defects by owners. Council property is in this respect well attended to, although it appears that the occupiers are not great respectors of property, from the amount of repairs done during the year. Overcrowding is not excessive and not different to last year, no fresh cases having been reported during the period.

In December 1940 the Council appointed a Works Superintendent who, inspects Council and other houses regularly.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Farms and dairies in the Area have had the annual inspection and improvements required being attended to by Surveyor. Examination of milk for quality and bacterial content is under the direction of the County Council.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Inspection of meat, shops, vehicles purveying, and slaughter houses was made during the year. Meat is wholesome, shops are kept clean, vehicles are clean, and commodities are kept covered while in transit.

Other foodstuffs displayed for sale appear to be thoroughly fresh and appetising. Shop inspection has disclosed nothing of which to complain, with the exception previously mentioned in this report.

Carcases inspected and Condemned

		Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
No. killed (if known)		NOT KNOWN.			
Number inspected.		100% of those slaughtered.			
All diseases except T. B. Whole carcasses condemned.	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	13 313 lbs.	Nil.
Carcasses part of organ of which condemned.	413 lbs.	1,932 lbs.	Nil.	550 lbs.	11 lbs.
Percentage of these.		NOT KNOWN.			
T. B. Only.	1.	12	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Whole carcasses condemned.	416 lbs.	5,281 lbs.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	50 lbs.	855 lbs.	Nil.	Nil.	3 lbs.
Percentage of these.		NOT KNOWN.			

Weight of other foods condemned was 536 lbs.

(c) Adulteration.

No action has been necessary under this heading.

(d) Chemical and bacteriological examination of Food.

This is under the Control of the County Council.

(e) Nutrition.

No action

(f) Shellfish (Molluscan)

There are no shellfish beds in the Area.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and control over Infectious and other diseases.

General.

Influenzal ravages were not so prevalent during the year.

Scarlet Fever cases that occur in houses where satisfactory isolation can be obtained are kept at home. All others are sent to Hospital, and the authorities there co-operate in sending home as soon as possible uncomplicated cases.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation is being carried on, and the response in this year was very satisfactory.

No use has been made of measles serum, either for Prophylaxis or attenuation.

(c) Premises and contacts of infections are duly disinfected, or provided with the means of securing the result under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. School children contacts are segregated for the usual periods.

Bedding from deceased cases of tuberculosis and cancer is destroyed under the Sanitary Inspector's direction, owners being suitably compensated.

Annual "Rat Week" is duly organized and advertised, and the public are supplied with poison on request.

Notification Cases (other than T. B.) during 1942.

Diseases.	Total cases.	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths.
Erysipilas	3	1	0
Enteric Fever.	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	1	0	1
Diphtheria.	7	7	0
Pneumonia.	10	0	5
Scarlet Fever.	15	9	0
Measles.	153	2	0
Whooping Cough.	2	0	0
Menigitis C. G.	1	1	0
	192	20	6

Analysis of Notified Cases according to age.

Under 1 year.	11
Over 1 year.	16
Over 2 years.	21
Over 3 years.	30
Over 4 years.	40
Over 5 years.	51
Over 10 years.	6
Over 20 years.	8
Over 35 years.	3
Over 45 years.	3
Over 65 years.	3
Total	192

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from disease or injury to the eyes.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal of persons suffering from Tuberculosis to hospital.

New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age periods.	New cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
25	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
and up.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	3	2	1	1	1	2	-	-

1. No deaths have occurred in non-notified cases of T. B. in the Area, and no difficulty is experienced in the notification of T. B. by practitioners.

2. There is no evidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the Area.

The opportunity afforded in this report of expressing my appreciation of the valuable help and courtesy always extended to me by the Council and its officials is always a pleasure to record.

I am,

Yours obediently,

NEVILLE WILLIAMS.